

February 17, 1959

Ms. Frederick Glover
President's Office
Stanford University

Dear Mr. Glover:

Miss Lois Larkin, now residing in Melbourne and an Australian citizen, wishes to apply for an Exchange Visitors Visa in order to visit Stanford University for a period of one to two years, beginning ~~ANYWAY~~ August 1959. Her visit would be of great value to the initiation and success of a research project in the Genetics Department on the cellular mechanisms of antibody formation. I am proposing to appoint her a Research Assistant in this department in order to assist Dr. G. J. V. Nossal and myself in the work outlined in the research application enclosed herewith.

Miss Larkin has a limited formal education-- her only academic credentials are the 'leaving certificate', approximately equivalent to a U.S. high school diploma. However, she has had many years of laboratory experience with Dr. Burnet and others at the Hall Institute, and she has learned a great deal of the theoretical foundations of the practical procedures she employs. I was pleased to have her assistance during my own (Fulbright) visit to Melbourne during Sept.-Oct. 1957, and can speak from my own experience concerning her unusual qualifications as an experimentalist. The techniques that Dr. Nossal and I propose to use for our investigations have been developed in part with her assistance, and I doubt that it would be possible to find anyone else, with any formal training or not, who could be so helpful in their further execution. Her participation at this time, especially when we are first setting up our laboratory program in the genetics of mammalian cells, would be quite invaluable.

I am enclosing a letter on her behalf from Dr. Nossal, and a list of publications on which she has been a co-author, as well as others on which she was responsible for the technical work. Also enclosed is her biographical statement.

She will not be eligible for a Fulbright travel assistance grant. She is applying for other possible help; in any case, I hope to augment her salary to help pay her extraordinary expenses in travelling here. Her presence would be a decided asset, and the same justification applies as does to this request for the endorsement of her visa application.

May I request that you issue a program number and mail the certificate to her at: Hall Institute for Medical Research, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Parkville N2, Vic., Australia.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Executive ; Professor of